

A NEW SPECIES OF *OREOMYRRHIS*  
(UMBELLIFERAE, APIACEAE) FROM NEW GUINEA

MILDRED E. MATHIAS AND LINCOLN CONSTANCE

WHEN WE PUBLISHED a world revision of *Oreomyrrhis* some twenty years ago (in Univ. Calif. Publ. Bot. 27: 347–416. 1955), even the two dozen collections then available from New Guinea clearly revealed that the island had a disproportionately large representation of the more striking variation exhibited by this remarkable circum-austral genus. Extensive subsequent collections suggest that our treatment is no longer adequate, but we are not in a favorable position to undertake a re-study. We would, however, like to put on record a striking new taxon that has generously been brought to our attention by the collectors, Dr. P. F. Stevens of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, and Dr. J. F. Veldkamp, Rijksherbarium, Leiden, Netherlands.

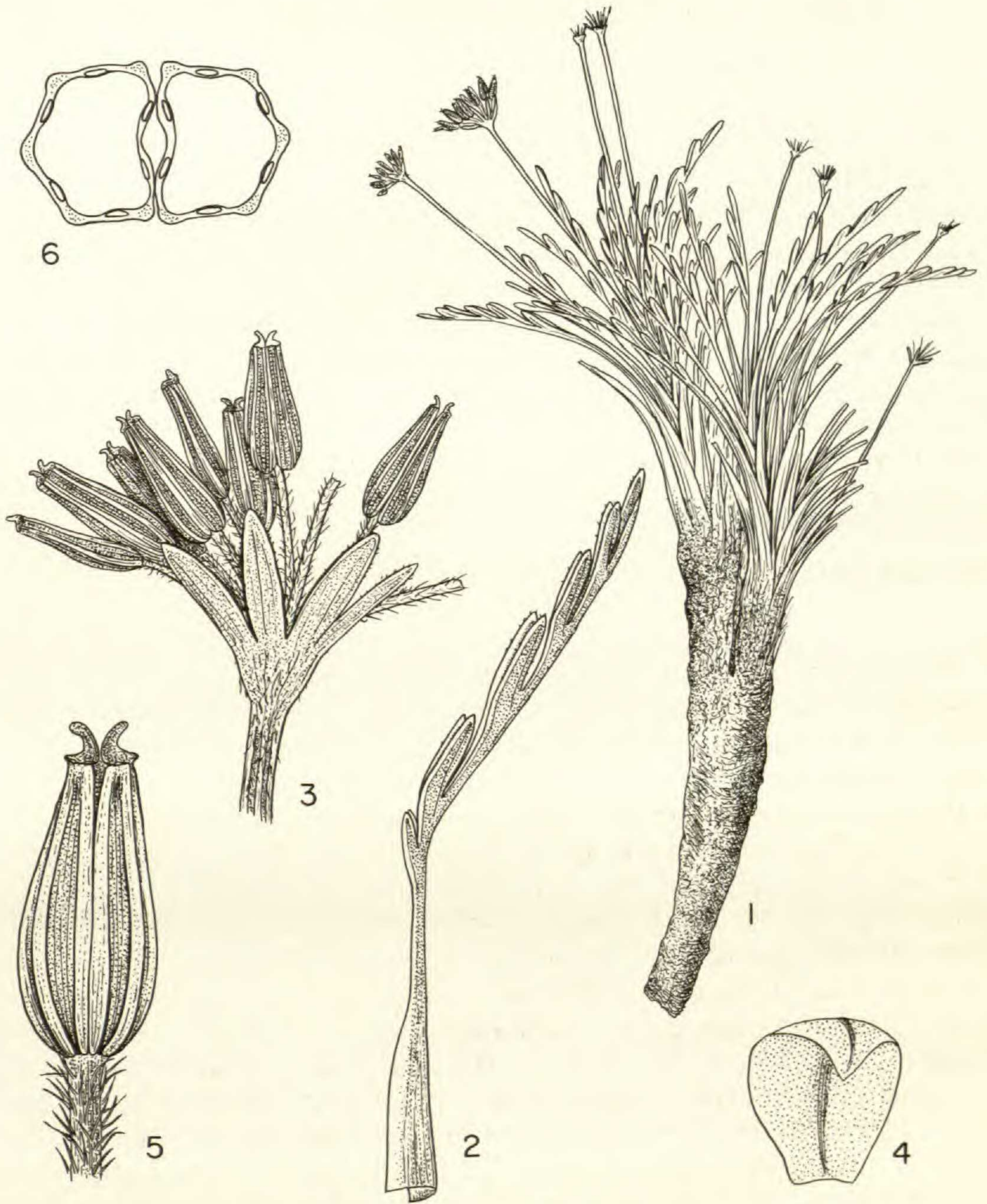
*Oreomyrrhis plicata* M. E. Mathias & L. Constance, sp. nov.

FIGURES 1–6.

Plantae acaulescentes e caudice crasso ligneo, 5–15 cm. altae; folia ambitu linearia vel lanceolata, 1–4 cm. longa, 1–3 mm. lata, plicata, pinnata, foliolis 5–11, linearibus vel lineari-oblongis 2–5 mm. longis integris approximatis obtusatis glabris vel ciliatis carnosissimis vel coriaceis nitidis ad rhachin articulata affixis, petiolis gracilibus laminas plerumque aequalibus vel eis longioribus basi late scarioso-vaginantibus, 0.8–6 cm. longis; pedunculi solitarii vel plures apice sparsim retrorso-hirsutuli erectiusculi quam petioli valde longiores, 2.5–12 cm. longi; bracteae involucrales 6–8, lineares vel lanceolati-oblongae obtusae integrae interdum ciliatae dorso glabrae basi connatae quam fructus breviores; flores 10–20 quam involucra breviores, petalis purpureis dorso glabris; stylopodium obscure conicum, stylis divergentibus, stylopodium cum stylis 0.3–0.5 mm. longis; carpophorum usque ad basim bifidum; pedicelli patentes aliquantum crassi adpresso-hirsuti 3–7 mm. longi quam involucrum breviores id aequantes; fructus 10–20 pyriformi-ovoidei valde acuminati glabri, 2.5–3 mm. longi, 1.5 mm. lati, costis prominentibus pallidis quam intervallis fuscis multo angustioribus; vittae in valleculis 1 in commissuris 2; semina facie anguste concava.

**TYPE LOCALITY.** Papua New Guinea: summit of Goë Dendeniwa, Goropu Mountains (Mt. Suckling complex), alt. 3625 m., Raba Raba Subdistrict, Milne Bay District, Lat. 9° 45' S, Long. 148° 58' E, 26 June 1972, *Stevens & Veldkamp LAE 54276* (L, holotype; A, isotype).

**OTHER COLLECTION.** Papua New Guinea: Subalpine grasslands, S ridge of Goë Dendeniwa, SW slope in recent rock slide, 3325 m. alt., Lat. ca. 9° 40' S, Long. 148° 56' E, 24 June 1972, *Veldkamp & Stevens 5748* (L, UC).



FIGURES 1-6. *Oreomyrrhis plicata*: all from Veldkamp & Stevens 5748. 1, habit,  $\times \frac{1}{2}$ ; 2, foliage leaf,  $\times 1$ ; 3, fruiting umbel,  $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ ; 4, petal,  $\times 9$ ; 5, intact mature fruit,  $\times 7$ ; 6, fruit transection,  $\times 10$ .

Mr. Th. van de Water, a student at Leiden, made the initial determination that the new taxon was not included in our monograph. The simply pinnate leaves, folded lengthwise, with closely adpressed linear to linear-oblong leaflets, have not been encountered heretofore in the genus. The type collection is stated to have been made in a "red rock area (ultramafic rock)," and to have been common, but with little associated vegetation except Caryophyllaceae, Ericales, and *Hypericum*.

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